

In the United States Court of Federal Claims

OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

No. 19-0858V

UNPUBLISHED

MICHAELENE WIDSON,

Petitioner,

v.

SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND
HUMAN SERVICES,

Respondent.

Chief Special Master Corcoran

Filed: December 21, 2020

Special Processing Unit (SPU);
Damages Decision Based on Proffer;
Tetanus Diphtheria acellular
Pertussis (Tdap) Vaccine; Shoulder
Injury Related to Vaccine
Administration (SIRVA)

Amy A. Senerth, Muller Brazil, LLP, Dresher, PA, for Petitioner.

Linda Sara Renzi, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC, for Respondent.

DECISION AWARDING DAMAGES¹

On June 11, 2019, Michaelene Widson filed a petition for compensation under the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program, 42 U.S.C. §300aa-10, *et seq.*² (the “Vaccine Act”). Petitioner alleges that she suffered a shoulder injury related to vaccine administration (“SIRVA”) as a result of a Tetanus-Diphtheria-acellular Pertussis (“Tdap”) vaccine administered on May 15, 2017. Petition at 1. The case was assigned to the Special Processing Unit of the Office of Special Masters.

On October 28, 2020, a ruling on entitlement was issued, finding Petitioner entitled to compensation for SIRVA. On December 18, 2020, Respondent filed a proffer on award of compensation (“Proffer”) indicating Petitioner should be awarded \$75,000.00. Proffer at 1. In the Proffer, Respondent represented that Petitioner agrees with the proffered

¹ Because this unpublished decision contains a reasoned explanation for the action in this case, I am required to post it on the United States Court of Federal Claims' website in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002. 44 U.S.C. § 3501 note (2012) (Federal Management and Promotion of Electronic Government Services). **This means the decision will be available to anyone with access to the internet.** In accordance with Vaccine Rule 18(b), Petitioner has 14 days to identify and move to redact medical or other information, the disclosure of which would constitute an unwarranted invasion of privacy. If, upon review, I agree that the identified material fits within this definition, I will redact such material from public access.

² National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755. Hereinafter, for ease of citation, all “§” references to the Vaccine Act will be to the pertinent subparagraph of 42 U.S.C. § 300aa (2012).

award. *Id.* Based on the record as a whole, I find that Petitioner is entitled to an award as stated in the Proffer.

Pursuant to the terms stated in the attached Proffer, **I award Petitioner a lump sum payment of \$75,000.00 in the form of a check payable to Petitioner.** This amount represents compensation for all damages that would be available under § 15(a).

The clerk of the court is directed to enter judgment in accordance with this decision.³

IT IS SO ORDERED.

s/Brian H. Corcoran
Brian H. Corcoran
Chief Special Master

³ Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment can be expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.

I. Compensation for Vaccine Injury-Related Items

II. Form of the Award

¹ Should petitioner die prior to entry of judgment, the parties reserve the right to move the Court for appropriate relief. In particular, respondent would oppose any award for future medical expenses, future lost earnings, and future pain and suffering.

A lump sum payment of \$75,000.00, in the form of a check payable to petitioner, Michaelene Widson. This amount accounts for all elements of compensation under 42 U.S.C. § 300aa-15(a) to which petitioner is entitled.

Petitioner is a competent adult. Evidence of guardianship is not required in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

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/s/ Linda S. Renzi
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Dated: December 18, 2020